

8EHQ - 0599 - 14457

Shell Chemical Company

A Division of Shell Oil Company



One Shell Plaza
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Houston TX 77252

May 20, 1999

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8EHQ-99-14457

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Attn: 8(e) Coordinator

SUBJECT: VIOLENT SEIZURES RESULTING IN SPINAL CORD INJURIES IN RATS EXPOSED TO HIGH LEVELS OF A CYCLOPARAFFINIC SOLVENT (90% METHYL CYLCOHEXANE CAS REG. NO. 108-87-2)

The following information is submitted under TSCA 8(e), since it may constitute substantial health risk information not previously known to the Administrator.

Following acute inhalation exposure of rats to a vapor concentration of 7,700 ppm cycloparaffinic solvent (90 % methylcyclohexane CAS Reg. No. 108-87-2), sudden violent seizures were observed that in one animal resulted in traumatic injury. Injury was demonstrated by spinal cord and surrounding tissue lesions and the clinical presentation of hindlimb paralysis. The 4-hour LC50 for methylcyclohexane has been reported to be 10,000 ppm in mice and 15,000 ppm in rabbits.

The relevance of this information to humans is not understood as the exposure level is close to the LC50. Shell's hydrocarbon solvent Material Safety Data Sheets have reflected the possibility of seizures subsequent to exposures to high vapor concentrations.

This report is filed to provide information EPA may find useful. In no way is it intended as a waiver of any rights or privileges belonging to Shell Chemical Company as the reporting corporation, its agents or employees. The reporting corporation, its agents and employees, reserve the right to object to this report's use or admissibility in any subsequent judicial or administrative proceeding against the corporation, its agents or employees.

This report has been compiled based on information available as of the date of filing. The corporation, its agents and employees reserve the right to supplement the data contained in this report, and to revise and amend any conclusions drawn therefrom.

This report contains no Confidential Business Information.

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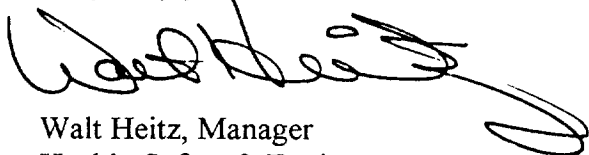
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The following person should be contacted if you have questions or a need for discussion:

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Product Stewardship & Regulatory Compliance
Shell Chemical Company
P.O. Box 4320
Houston, TX 77210
Telephone No. 713-241-6958
Facsimile 713-241-3325

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Walt Heitz', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Walt Heitz, Manager
Health, Safety & Environment
Shell Chemical Company

Contains No CMA